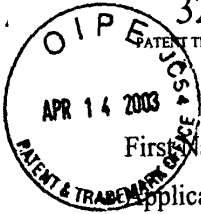




32692

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent
Case No.: 53836US002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: BUCKINGHAM, MARK R.

Application No.: 09/277312

Group Art Unit: 1714

Filed: March 26, 1999

Examiner: Peter A. Szekely

Title: INTUMESCENT FIRE SEALING COMPOSITION

RECEIVED
APR 16 2003
TC 1700AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTERCommissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on:

APRIL 9, 2003
DateDavid B. Patchett
Signed by: David B. Patchett

Attached is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee for this amendment is computed as follows:

Claims As Amended							
(1)	(2) Claims Remaining After Amendment	(3)	(4)		(5)	(6)	(7)
			Highest No. Previously Paid For		Present Extra	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims	10/11	Minus	**	20	0	x \$18.00	\$0.00
Independent Claims	2	Minus	***	3	0	x \$84.00	\$0.00
Additional fee for filing one or more multiple dependent claims, if no such fee has been previously paid						\$280.00	\$0.00
				Total Additional Fee For This Amendment →			\$0.00
** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" in this space would be less than 20, write "20" in this space.							
*** If the "Highest No. previously Paid For" in this space would be less than 3, write "3" in this space.							

Please charge to Deposit Account 13-3723 any fees under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required during the entire pendency of this application. This authorization includes the fee for any extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) that may be necessary. To the extent any such extension should become necessary, it is hereby requested. One copy of this sheet marked duplicate is also enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

APRIL 9, 2003

Date

By: David B. Patchett

David B. Patchett, Reg. No.: 39,326

Telephone No.: (651) 736-4713

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833



32692

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent
Case No.: 53836US002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: BUCKINGHAM, MARK R.

Application No.: 09/277,312

Group Art Unit: 1714

Filed: March 26, 1999

Examiner: Peter A. Szekely

Title: INTUMESCENT FIRE SEALING COMPOSITION

B
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04/24/03
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Washington, DC 20231CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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APRIL 9, 2003

Date

Signed by: David B. Patchett

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the outstanding Office Action, mailed November 12, 2002, in the above-identified application. A Request for Extension of Time extending the time for responding to the Office Action two (2) months from February 12, 2003, to April 14, 2003, (April 12, 2003, falling on a Saturday) is submitted herewith.

Amendments

Please amend the application as follows:

B In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 16, 18, 20, and 24, and add the following new claims:

B¹ 27. (New) A method of preparing a flexible solid intumescent fire barrier material, comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing, in a substantially volatile free state, a mixture of water-insoluble intumescent mineral granules, halogen-free organic binder, and phosphorus containing flame retardant; and
- (b) mixing the mixture at high shear conditions;

wherein the resulting fire barrier material has a softness value from about 0.01 to about 3.75 mm.